

Transportation Conformity Working Group

Interagency Consultation

Meeting Summary

Tuesday, May 23, 2006
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Southern California Association of Governments
818 W 7th Street, 12th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Riverside 'A' Conference Room

The following minutes are intended to **summarize** the matters discussed.
An audiocassette tape of the actual meeting is available for listening in SCAG's office.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 AM by Ty Schuling, SANBAG

2.0 WELCOME AND SELF-INTRODUCTIONS

ATTENDANCE:

Sam Alameddine, Caltrans
John Asuncion, SCAG
Rosemary Ayala, SCAG
Jeremy Bailey, SCAG
Kathleen Brady, Bon Terra Consulting
Meenu Chandan, Caltrans
Herman Chang, MTA
Susan Chapman, METRO
Anne Dutrey, City of Chino Hills
Everett Enis, Caltrans
Paul Fagan, Caltrans District 8
Carol Gomez, SCAQMD
Maureen Harake, Caltrans Dist. 12
Kalieh Honish, METRO
Bill Hughes, City of Temecula
Edison Jaffery, Caltrans
Matt Jones, MGA
Mona Jones, METRO
Doug Kim, MTA
Jessica Kirchner, SCAG
Phillip Law, SCAG
Keith Lay, LSA Associates
Eric Lu, Environ International Corp.
Tony Louka, Caltrans
Betty Mann, SCAG
Laleh Modrek, Caltrans
Jonathan Nadler, SCAG
Hank Nguyen, Moffatt & Nichol
Tim Papandreu, METRO
Sylvia Patsaouras, SCAG
Lisa Poe, SANBAG

Ty Schuling, SANBAG
Arnie Sherwood, ITS/UCB/SCAG
Carla Walecka, TCA
Libby Wood, RBF
Andy Woods, Caltrans

VIA TELE-CONFERENCE:

Mike Brady, Caltrans Headquarters
Ben Cacacian, Ventura County APCD
David Cohen, FHA
Peter Dehaan, Ventura County
Transportation Commission
Ilene Gallo, Caltrans Headquarters
Kathryn Higgins, SCAQMD
Linda Jones, Caltrans District 11
Sandy Johnson, Caltrans District 11
Ken Lobeck, RCTC
Steve Luxenburg, FHWA
Ted Matley, FTA Region 9
Jean Mazur, FHA
Genie McGaugh, Ventura County APCD
Jill McIntyre, Caltrans District 12
Yvonne Sells, SCAQMD
Doug Thompson, CARB
Karina O'Connor, EPA Region 9
Dennis Wade, ARB
Doug Eisenger, UC Davis, Caltrans,
Sonoma Technology
Mimi Sogutlugil, CARB



3.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments at the meeting.

4.0 CHAIR'S REPORT

There was no Chair Report at the meeting.

5.0 ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Approval of the March 28, 2006 Meeting Summary

MOTION was made to ACCEPT the summary of the April 25, 2006 meeting.

6.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

6.1 Interagency Review of Projects: PM 2.5 Hot Spot Analysis

On March 10, 2006, the US EPA adopted a final rule that establishes the criteria for determining which transportation projects must be analyzed for local particle emissions impacts in PM2.5 and PM10 nonattainment and maintenance areas. While the rule provides some guidance, it leaves some discretion as to what projects are deemed "Project of Air Quality Concern" (POAQC) requiring project-level hot spot analysis. As such, project sponsors, transportation commissions, and Caltrans can submit projects to the monthly meeting of the TCWG for interagency review to determine whether a project requires a hot spot analysis. Numerous projects were submitted to the TCWG for review at the May 23, 2006 meeting. The information submitted for review varied from a brief description of a project to detailed analyses. In order to most efficiently process the many projects submitted to the TCWG, the Chair requested project sponsors inform the group which projects are in jeopardy of losing funds or federal approval if a decision were not made at this meeting. Based on the response to the Chair's request, nine projects were reviewed by the TCWG. The review included a description of the project by the project sponsor or representative and a discussion of the potential for increased diesel truck traffic due the project. The discussions were project specific, but generally focused on the average daily trips and the percentage of truck trips for the opening year and horizon year (or other peak year), and surrounding land uses. Based on the TCWG review, five projects were determined to not be POAQC, while four required additional information to be submitted before a determination could be made. Project sponsor's agreed to provide additional information to the federal agencies on the undecided projects.

The following projects were deemed to not be POAQC:

City of Fontana: I-10/Citrus
San Bernardino County (Yucaipa): I-10 Live Oak Canyon
City of Chino Hills: Peyton Drive
Riverside County: I-15/French Valley Parkway
Riverside County: I-15/California Oaks

The following projects required additional information before a determination could be made:

Riverside County: Route 91/Green River Drive
Riverside County (Corona): I-15/Magnolia
San Bernardino: I-215
Santa Ana: 5th Street at Jackson Street

The group agreed that a more efficient process for submitting and reviewing projects for project-level PM hot spot analysis requirements was necessary. A sub-group agreed to discuss this further and to report back to the group.

6.2 Criteria for Regionally Significant Projects

Due to time constraints, this item was deferred for discussion.

6.3 SAFETEA-LU Earmark Project on I-5

This item was pulled from the agenda.

6.4 TCM Update

Jessica Kirchner, SCAG, stated that she had included the list of TCM's from L.A. County in this month's agenda and that all the other counties were included in last month's agenda. There were several projects listed as not TCM's in the "completed project" section based on past discussions of the working group. Staff is working to finalize the list.

Comments received on the TCM lists previous provided to the TCWG have been incorporated. It was noted that after hearing back from the EPA, the RCTC projects and list of HOV projects will be listed as exempt projects and removed from the list of TCM's for Riverside County.

Responding to questions regarding this agenda item, Ms. Kirchner clarified that she has requested that the commissions include types of vehicle and whether it is an expansion or replacement in the TCM descriptions. Ms. Kirchner also noted that "no-project activity" in the project status column does not mean that a project is not being implemented.

Based on last meeting's discussion relative to not funding the expansion of para-transit van service by one vehicle, the committee agreed that further discussion was needed to better define what a TCM is so that projects without air quality benefits do not require substitution.

6.5 RTP Update

Philip Law, SCAG, stated that staff will be going to the Transportation Communications Committee on June 1, 2006 with a draft RTP amendment to add the Omnitrans sbX Project.

6.6 RTIP Update

Rosemary, SCAG, stated that staff is working on the analysis of the 2006 RTIP. The regional emissions analysis is being prepared; the financial constraint is also being worked on. It is planned to go out for public review sometime in June.

6.7 AQMP Update

Yvonne Sells, SCAQMD, reported that the AQMP Advisory Group met in May. The group hopes to have emission inventory issues resolved by the beginning of July. The SCAQMD has an "Air Quality Summit" scheduled for June 5-6 at the Ontario Marriott which is open to the public. The intention is to solicit ideas on potential emission reduction strategies for the 2007 AQMP. The agency is also working on finalization of the Reasonably Available Control measures (RACT) SIP for submittal to go to the SCAQMD Board in the month of July.

6.8 Information Sharing

Based on the PM hot spot analysis discussion today, Mike Brady, Caltrans, sent a revised interagency consultation form via e-mail at 11:55 A.M.

7.0 **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 P.M.

The next meeting of the TCWG will be on Tuesday, July 25, 2006 at SCAG.